



FIRELINE

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2006

WFCA Health Care Program

At the January 23, 2006 meeting of the Insurance Rate Stabilization Reserve Account (IRSRA) Committee, the year-end financial picture was discussed in detail. The WFCA health care program remains in excellent financial condition, exceeding the requirements of the Office of Financial Management (State Risk Manager).

After a requirement for additional reserves over the last several years, the program continues to provide competitive benefits and rates to participating fire districts.

Mr. Spiller and Mr. Treves are willing, on request, to attend meetings with district personnel and/or with boards of commissioners.

Although several districts have chosen to insure elsewhere during 2006, the financial impact on our program will be minimal. Since we are operating for 2006 on a no additional reserve requirement, the loss of premiums will also limit losses on an equitable level.

The committee took action to appoint Tom Treves, current consultant, as the Health Care Manager effective January 1, 2007. Pete Spiller, current Health Care Manager, with Mr. Treves, will be requesting attendance at all county association meetings during 2006.

The purpose of attendance is to discuss the WFCA program and its future as well as to introduce Mr. Treves to the membership. Both Mr. Spiller and Mr. Treves have met with employee groups during 2005 and are willing, on request, to attend any meetings with district personnel and/or with boards of commissioners. If you have any questions regarding the WFCA health care program, please call Pete Spiller at 1.800.491.9322.

Training Academy Business Plan Goes to Legislature

**By Michael G. Matlick
Acting State Fire Marshal**

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has submitted its comprehensive State Fire Training Academy Business Plan to the legislature for their review. The plan was developed in response to a directive from the 2005 Legislative Session.

The first of the plan was reviewed with fire service personnel across the state in numerous meetings hosted by the Fire Training Academy (FTA).

The input from these meetings, as well as feedback from those reviewing the plan on the Internet, was incorporated into the final product.

See Plan on Page Three

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Report..... 2

WFCA Saturday Seminar Series2

On the Web..... 2

Classified Ads..... 3

Fire Service Directory 3

A Message from the President *by Richard Kistler*



The holidays are over and I trust that you all had relaxing and enjoyable time

with family and friends. Now that the new year is underway, I'm ready for another productive term as your President.

My travels have been somewhat curtailed for the winter season, but I did have the opportunity to administer the oath of office to the officers of the Pierce County Fire Commissioners Association along with the Chiefs' Association, the Thurston County Fire Commissioners Association, and the Sno-Isle Commissioners Association.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunities to attend your regional and county association meetings and greatly appreciate the feeling of welcome when I am able to attend and take part.

The WFCA/WSAFC Joint Legislative Day, held January 24 in Olympia, was one of the best in recent memory. The association received many positive comments about holding the event at the capitol dome, which provided tremendous access for our legislators.

Take the time to become familiar with issues so that we can offer our legislators educated input.

We do have some critical issues for this session of the legislature. If you are not already on the list of those receiving weekly updates via email, or if you would like the updates mailed to you, contact the WFCA office at 1.800.491.9322. NOTE: The updates are also available on-line at www.wfca.wa.gov (**Current Report**

under **Legislative Reports** tab). Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the issues and the position of the state organization on those issues.

One of the most important issues is that of allowing fire districts to "lift the lid" for a period of up to 6 years. The passage of this issue would help to stabilize fire district funding and reduce the impact of inflation on our already stretched budgets.

Other issues that we will be watching include the establishment of a new Department of Public Safety, lessening the effect of annexations on fire districts' budgets, and several issues pertaining to volunteer pensions and disability payments. Once again, please take the time to become familiar with these issues so that we can offer our legislators educated input.

If you have any questions or comments regarding any of these issues, please contact me through the state office.

I do look forward to another interesting and educational year.

WFCA Saturday Seminar Series Set

The 2006 WFCA Saturday Seminar Series brochure, outlining detailed program information, was mailed to all members earlier this month.

The seminar series will feature a program for **Newly Elected/Appointed Commissioners, Chiefs & Secretaries** (presented in Yakima on March 25 and Ocean Shores on May 6). This is an excellent refresher course for experienced commissioners as well!

This program will be repeated on May 6 in Ocean Shores, following a one-hour workshop on

evaluating health care proposals.

The one-hour health care program will be repeated in Chelan on June 3, followed by a workshop entitled, **"How to Evaluate & Increase the Efficiency of Your Fire District Personnel."**

If you would like a copy of the seminar brochure, log onto www.wfca.wa.gov and click **WFCA Programs** in the drop-down menu under the **Education & Training** tab. If you would prefer to receive the brochure by mail, call the WFCA office at 1.800.491.9322.

ON THE WEB...

During session, the WFCA posts weekly legislative updates on its web site. To view, visit www.wfca.wa.gov and select **Current Report** in the drop down menu under the **Legislative Reports** tab. NOTE: Weekly reports are sent to members on the WFCA email distribution list and mailed to WFCA members *by request only*.



Serving Northwest
Leaders Since 1970

Northwest Leadership Seminar Set for March 1-3

Successful Leadership Starts Now!

The 37th Annual Northwest Leadership Seminar will be held March 1-3, 2006, at the Red Lion on the River in Portland, Oregon. Program highlights include:

- The Success Principles, *presented by Jack Canfield*
- Reducing Organizational Resistance: The Leader's Role, *presented by Dr. Kevin M. Gilmartin*
- The Aliens Have Landed – Meet Generation Why, *presented by Eric Chester*
- Your Leadership Role in Organizational Risk Management, *presented by Gordon Graham*
- Do You Sizzle or Fizzle? A Recipe for Leadership Country Style, *presented by Dr. Dale Henry*

For additional program information as well as a registration form, log onto www.nwleadershipseminar.com. Seminar and lodging will be at the Red Lion on the River, 909 Hayden Island Drive, Portland, Oregon, 97217, 503.283.4466.

New Rating for Glacier Fire

Effective February 1, 2006, Glacier Fire & Rescue (Whatcom County Fire Protection District 19) received a Class 7 fire protection rating. The district's previous rating was Class 8.

Congratulations to Glacier Fire & Rescue!

Commissioners: Jan Eskola, Steve Siekkinen, Tim Coralline

Chief: Ben Thompson

Secretary: Laura Coralline

Fire Service Directory Mailed

The 2006 Washington State Fire Service Directory has been mailed to all WFCOA member district commissioners, secretaries and chiefs.

Please be sure to check your district's listing and let the WFCOA office know if there are any errors or updates, as the directory information is used to maintain the association's mailing address database.

For additional copies of the directory, contact the WFCOA office at 1.800.491.9322, email wfca@wfca.wa.gov, fax 360.664.0415 or write P.O. Box 134, Olympia, WA 98507. The charge per copy is \$15 for members.

Ads

FOR SALE by Franklin 3: '91 Intl 4800 Type 2, Wildland Fire Trk, 4x4, 28,200 gvw, 750 gal, 500 gpm, 15 gal foam tank, 64K mi, auto trans, red w/yellow flames. Transfer case rebuilt 8/00. Best offer over \$20,000 by 3/31/06. Sale "as is, where is" w/no warranty expressed/implied. Contact the district @ 509.547.9306, fax 509.547.2535, litzfcfd3@charter.net, 2108 N Road 84, Pasco, WA 99301.

FOR SALE by Mason 5: Good hose that was just tested. 1850 ft of 2½ @ \$1.15 per foot; 2500 ft of 1½ @ \$.75 per foot; 1000 ft of 1¼ rubber @ \$1.00 per foot. Contact Asst Chief Tim McKern for information at 360.426.5533 or 360.275.2889.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT by East County Fire & Rescue (Clark Co., WA): Captain. Position description is available through the district by request. Salary range is \$4,933-\$5,600 per month plus benefits. Applications available in person at Station 9-1, 905 NE 267th Ave, Camas; Station 1-1, 211 39th St, Washougal; or by mail (w/SASE) @ East Co Fire & Rescue, PO Box 345, Washougal, WA 98671. No phone calls. Closes 2/15/06.

Plan From Page One

The Office of the State Fire Marshal wishes to thank all of those who took the time to review the business plan and provide comments.

The programmatic part of the business plan attempts to capitalize on the unique fire training experience offered by the FTA, while recognizing the need to provide outreach training across the state.

The physical plant portion of the plan concentrates on the deteriorating infrastructure with an aggressive building campaign that can be phased in over several biennia.

The final version of the plan may be viewed on our web site at <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/fire/firemars.htm>.

We look forward to the continued support from the fire service as we move to implement that plan in the future.

2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: RICHARD KISTLER, THURSTON 7

VICE PRES.: LES RIEL, YAKIMA 4

SEC.-TREAS.: JOE DAWSON, SPOKANE 1

DIRECTORS

REGION 1: SHARON COLBY, SPOKANE 3

REGION 2: EMILIO BUTTICE, WALLA WALLA 4

REGION 3: DENNIS BJORK, GRANT 5

REGION 4: KEN EAKIN, YAKIMA 12

REGION 5: STEVE LICH, ISLAND 1

REGION 6: MARK THOMPSON, KING 39

REGION 7: ROBERT SKAGGS, PIERCE 21

REGION 8: KEITH MERRITT, COWLITZ 2

REGION 9: DAVIS WHEELER, JEFFERSON 3

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: ROGER FERRIS



WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 134 • OLYMPIA, WA 98507
(360) 943-3880 • 1-800-491-WFCA (9322)

FAX: (360) 664-0415

EMAIL: WFCA@WFCA.WA.GOV

WEB SITE: WWW.WFCA.WA.GOV

LOCATION

605 11TH AVE. S.E., SUITE 205, OLYMPIA

OFFICE HOURS

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY

THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE NOT NECESSARILY
THOSE OF THE WFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND/OR MEMBERSHIP.

WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 134
OLYMPIA, WA 98507

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OLYMPIA, WA
PERMIT NO. 268